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HOME

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JAPS MAY GRAB COLOMBIAN COAST AS NAVAL BASE RILEY TOLD THEM TO THROW OUT PRECINCTS

ELECTION CASES FROM BLAINE COUNTY DRAGGING; FOLLOWED STATE LAW IS DEFENSE

ISLAND EMPIRE OF PACIFIC SEEKS FOOTHOLD IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE

BATTLESHIPS CRUISING NEAR PANAMA CANAL

BALKE IN 1912 IN EFFORT TO BUY ISLAND FROM PANAMA, RENEW EFFORTS

(BULLETIN)

Panama, Feb. 22.—Two Japanese armored battleships, four coal transports and three smaller vessels, were sighted off the island of Coiba early today.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Information was forthcoming from an authoritative source today that Japan has renewed her attempts to obtain a foothold on the western hemisphere.

It was stated on high authority that Japan is negotiating with Colombia for the purchase of a site on her coast. These negotiations are of comparatively recent origin, it is said, and follow the failure of Japan to consummate a similar bargain with the republic of Panama.

Japan approached Panama on the subject last summer. The negotiations began verbally and finished with a four page document in French, setting forth the terms on which Japan would make the purchase of an island.

The document is now filed away in the archives of the state department.

Guaranteed Independence.

The Island named is Coiba, situated in the Pacific at a distance less than 200 miles from the coast of Panama. Included in the offer made to Panama, it is understood, was a guarantee by Japan that she would protect Panama's independence.

The Island of Coiba is unique. It is the furthest away from the Isthmus of any of the scores of islands which belong to Panama. It is, moreover, the only island which stands by itself, miles away from its nearest neighbor.

The difference in total distance between Panama and San Diego and Coiba and San Diego probably approximates 100 miles.

Colombia owns no islands in the Pacific, and is, of course, even further removed from the United States than Panama.

Better Suited for Base.

These disadvantages, it was pointed out, are offset by the fact that a stretch of coast territory in Colombia would offer Japan a base even better suited to its need than a relatively small island.

The pessimism expressed in diplomatic quarters concerning the Colombian treaty now pending in the Senate was cited as a reason why Japan might possibly find Colombia far more suitable for her purposes.

It is thought by Guthrie friends that these latest efforts on the part of Japan to establish a base near the West coast of the United States, if successful, will be for many years a leader of the republican party before it reaches the White House.

U. S. Threatened to Intervene.

It was the report of that activity that led the United States Senate in 1912, to adopt a resolution expressing determination of the government to protect its own safety, even to intervention.

ALL DO HOMAGE TO MEMORY OF WASHINGTON

(By Associated Press)

Washington, Feb. 22.—Every agency of the government today paused to pay homage to the memory of George Washington. President Wilson, and other national figures gathered at the celebration at Memorial Hall.

Another Guthrie boy has been promoted. Andrew Cassidy, barely 17 years of age, after two years apprenticeship as an office boy and messenger in the employ of the Mackay Telegraph Company was notified yesterday that he had been selected as assistant operator and clerk to Chief Operator Lester Waugh, at Springfield, Mo. Young Cassidy began work as a messenger boy for Waugh two years ago and by hard study and close attention to his work has mastered the business. "The best boy I ever saw" is the way Waugh referred to him. Young Cassidy has a host of friends who will be glad to hear of his advancement.

GERARD BROKE COLLAR BONE

(By Associated Press)

New York, Feb. 22.—Four men and women lost their lives in a fire today that destroyed a theatrical boarding house above a restaurant in the theatre section of the city.

London, Feb. 22.—James Gerard, American ambassador to Germany, at the outset of his stay in Berlin, Feb. 22, broke his collar bone, skinned yesterday, near Munich.

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